

Four Items for the Catalog Editor: I98, W23, V8, B165.7

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I don't know if I am getting luckier in

Although the perfin shown in Figure 2 (see page 32) is missing some holes in the first two letters, there is no doubt that the perfin is the WA/W of pattern W23. The catalog lists a location of Hoosick Falls,

chanics were lurking around the country trying to make a quick buck. I can only wonder if nowadays anyone with such an evil intent would go through all this trouble to make a dishonest dollar? My expe-

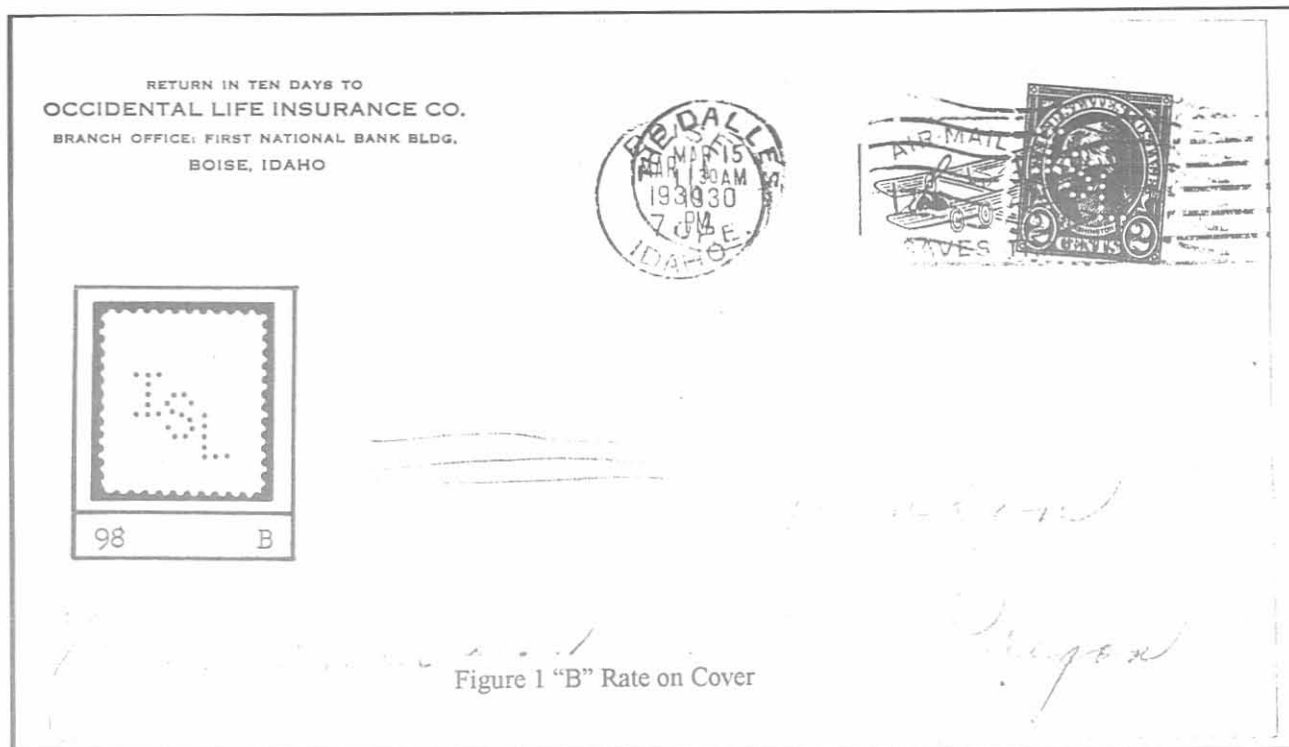


Figure 1 "B" Rate on Cover

finding these or maybe I'm getting better eyesight and/or insight to understand what has come into my hands.

Figure 1 represents an on cover usage of a "B" rate stamp (I98). Since the present catalog lists neither a user nor a location, this cover may represent a beginning. While the corner card lists the Occidental Life Insurance Company's branch office located in the First National Bank Building in Boise, Idaho the two CDSs provide conflicting data. The lighter one lists "BOISE/MAR 11/1930/7 PM/IDAHO" and the heavier one lists "THE DALES/MAR 15/11:30 AM/1930/ORE." From this it appears that the "The Dales" receiving mark hit the wrong side of the envelope. In any event, the corner card's Occidental Life Insurance as a user does not match the pattern's "ISL". But, at least the Boise, Idaho location and the first cancellation from Boise seem like good possibilities. Maybe someone else can help with this mystery while this information is passed on to the catalog editor for review.

NY which is clearly and beautifully shown on the November 7, 1917 cancel. Interesting to note; however, is the corner card's return address of Walter A. Wood Mowing & Reaping Machine Company, Hoosick Falls, NY. Could the existing catalog listing of W.A. Weed have been a typographical error? This is another one to make the catalog editor scratch his head.

Figure 3 (also shown on page 32) confirms the dilemma that must make our catalog editor and, I suppose all inquisitive collectors, shake their heads whenever we encounter a corner card identification so clearly marked, but yet so mysterious. Someone must possess a cover similar to this one because our catalog lists the user of perfin pattern V8 as the US Slicing Machine Company in La-Porte, IN. But, how do you make sense out of this?

Interestingly enough, this cover (Figure 4 on page 33) was found with the contents intact! Figure 4 shows a customer warning letter stating that unauthorized me-

rience in the security field says -- NO! Now check Figures 5 and 6. These show both sides of a second insert, Voila! Packed with the warning against unscrupulous repairmen is an advertisement for U.S. Slicing Machine's own product - VBP oil! If you use our oil, instead of some other brand, you will not have the problems and won't need to have your slicer fixed! Not only does the advertisement sound good to me, but the VBP should prove that our Catalog has the correct user.

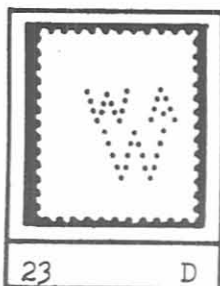
However, I suggest, the catalog editor should provide a note as to the meaning of VBP.

Figures 7 and 8 show both sides of a cover I found recently. It is always fun to find a cover that means something to a collector, but finding one with many interesting facets makes that cover even more prized. Mixed with a group of covers, I pulled this cover out for only one reason - its color - a yellowish orange! ... not my choice for best color of the year!

(Continued on page 32)

After Five Days Return to
WALTER A. WOOD
MOWING & REAPING MACHINE CO.
HOOSICK FALLS, N.Y.
U. S. A.

HOOSICK FALLS
NOV 7-17
9--30AM
N.Y.



H. Newell & Co.,
Shelburne Falls,
Mass.

Figure 2 - Walter A. Wood

(Continued from page 31)

Being a potato lover, I could only imagine what the chemicals the spray machinery was applying was doing to the little spuds and later to the people who picked and ate the potatoes. But that is not a story for The Perfin Bulletin.

I turned over the cover and immediately looked at the stamp, which to my pleasant

surprise happened to be a perfin - B167.7. According to the latest rating this is a "B" rate and since it is on a "two cent" red it is one of the early perfins. The usage also matches the catalog listing. The cover is addressed to an E.A. Adams in a neighboring town which is now known merely as Medway, so I now have a little research to find out what happened to and where exactly West Medway was located

a fun undertaking for another day. The final pleasant surprise is, that in checking the postmark, which confirms the catalog once again, I noted that the cancel is 7 o'clock, the 11th. day, the 7th month of the 11th year. 7-11-7-11 should make someone who is a craps player really want this cover.

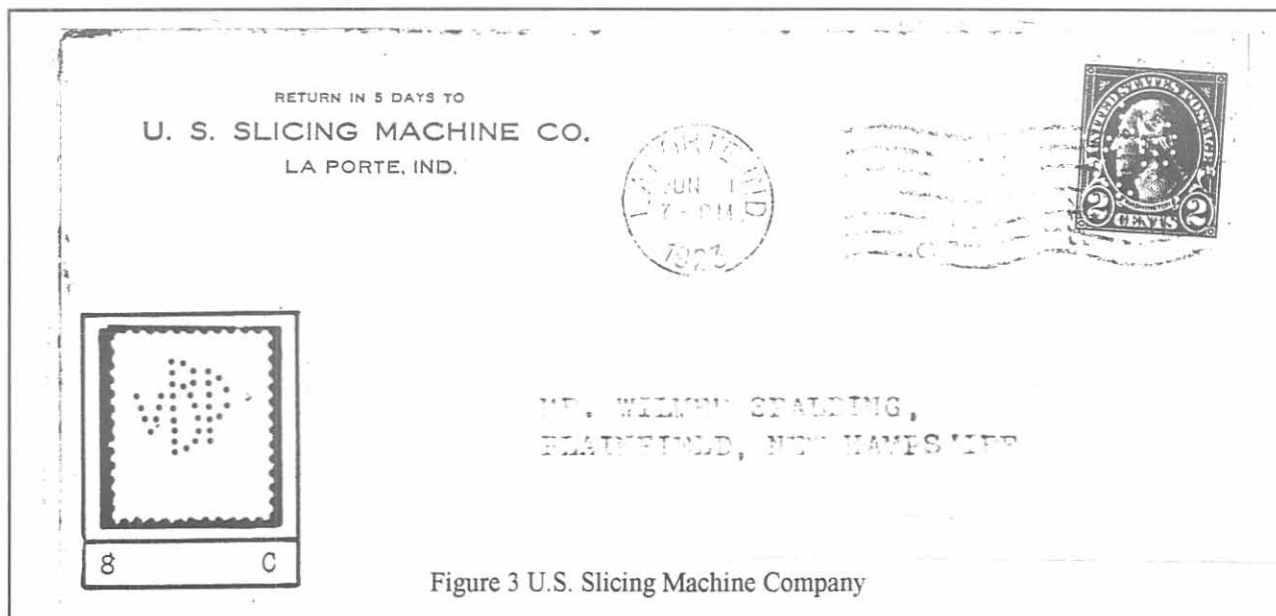


Figure 3 U.S. Slicing Machine Company

WARNING

To all users of the U. S. Slicing Machine:

It has come to our knowledge that a number of unauthorized parties have been calling upon users of our machine, representing themselves as Agents, Salesmen, Inspectors or Repairmen in the employ of this Company. In one city no less than six machines were put out of commission by being "overhauled" by an inexperienced mechanic who did not understand the machine.

This is to give notice that any Representative or Repair man sent out by this Company can at once identify himself by documentary proof and **we warn all users** of the U. S. Slicer to allow no one under any circumstances to "adjust" his machine unless fully satisfied that he is qualified to do so.

Considerable damage can be done to the machine by incompetent parties or anyone with mischievous intent.

This notice is distributed on the advice of several of our customers.

U. S. SLICING MACHINE COMPANY

Head Office and Factory LAPORTE, IND.

Form 234 10m-1-23

Figure 4 - Contents of the cover in Figure 4

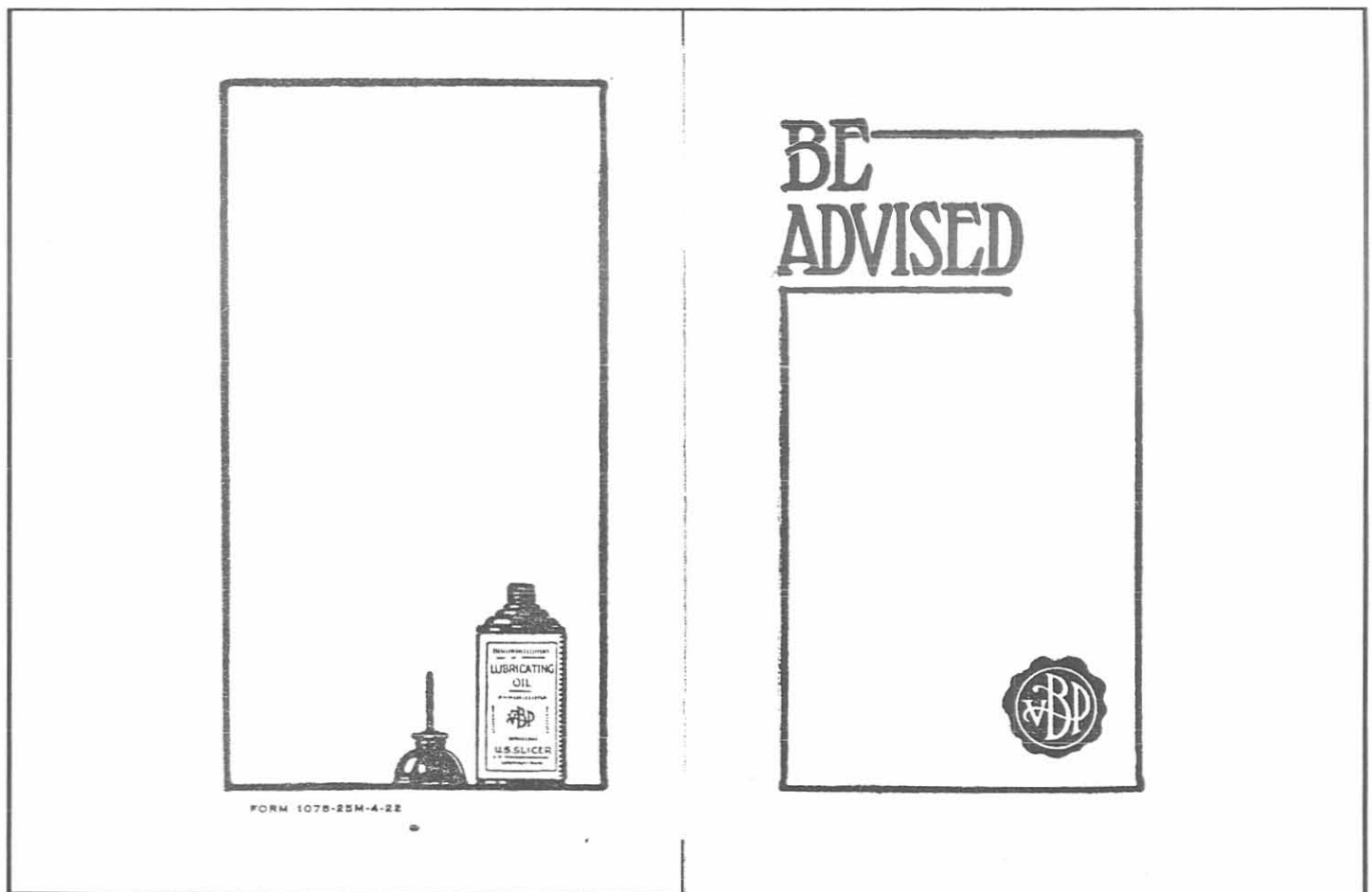


Figure 5 Front and Back of Brochure

Machinery's Greatest Enemy is
FRICTION

USE



OIL

Would you attempt to run an automobile without oil?

Your Slicing Machine requires the same attention. Perfect results can only be attained by using the "right oil."

"Any sort" of machine oil will *not* do.

We have found that V.B.P. Oil is the best because it is colorless, tasteless and odorless. Will not gum or clog and will not taint the most delicate of meats.

Bright parts of the machine should be wiped over now and then with a soft cloth moistened slightly with V. B. P. Oil.

Apply a few drops of oil to the places where marked "Oil" once or twice a week.

Do not expect the best results from your machine if you are not using V. B. P. Oil. Tear off slip and mail today with \$1.25.

U. S. SLICING MACHINE CO.

LA PORTE

INDIANA

Date

U. S. Slicing Machine Co.,
La Porte, Indiana.

Enclosed find \$1.25. Please send at once one quart
can V. B. P. Oil postpaid.

Name

Address

Please write name and address clearly.

Figure 6 - Inside of Brochure

RETURN IN 5 DAYS TO
BATEMAN M'FG CO.
GRENLOCH, NEW JERSEY, U.S.A.

IRON AGE
FARM AND GARDEN IMPLEMENTS.

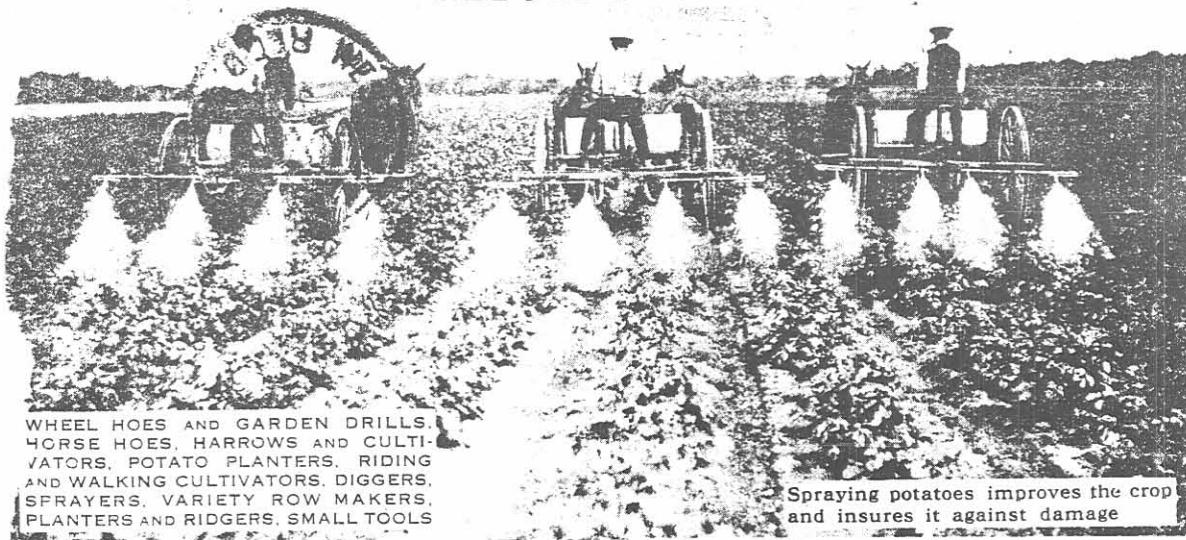


A day's work in 60 minutes with
Seed Drill and Wheel Hoe

Mr. E. A. Adams,
West Medway, Mass.

Figure 7 - Front of the Lucky Cover

IRON AGE



WHEEL HOES AND GARDEN DRILLS,
HORSE HOES, HARROWS AND CULTI-
VATORS, POTATO PLANTERS, RIDING
AND WALKING CULTIVATORS, DIGGERS,
SPRAYERS, VARIETY ROW MAKERS,
PLANTERS AND RIDGERS, SMALL TOOLS

Spraying potatoes improves the crop
and insures it against damage

Figure 8 - Back of the Lucky Cover